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Memorial Day Parade honors fallen military personnel

By Michael Reo

On a misty Monday morning, the city of South Haven, like many other cities across the United States, hosted a parade to celebrate Memorial Day. The parade began at 9 a.m., proceeding for 30 minutes before reaching its destination.

South Haven hosts the parade and subsequent ceremony annually to collectively remember fallen service members. Between 1980 and 2022, an average of 1,400 people died in the military each year. The day of the parade, the community united in remembrance of those lost lives.

Some buildings left messages along Phoenix Street, the road the parade spent most of its time on, for veterans and onlookers. The First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ left a dedication "for those that gave their last full measure of devotion." Similarly, as is a time-honored tradition for the holiday, City Hall flew its flag at half-staff before noon.

The rain that checkered the early morning schedule subsided shortly before the procession began. Despite the less-than-ideal weather conditions in the lead-up to the event, residents and visitors braved the cold weather to watch. A significant crowd gathered across from City Hall, but onlookers stretched all along the parade's route. As vehicles left their starting location at the intersection of Michigan Avenue and Center Street, the sirens of the motorcade blared.

South Haven police led and bookended the parade, guiding it along its 1-mile course to Lake View Cemetery. Roads were briefly blocked to make way.

Following a SWAT Humvee, a group of military men in uniform carried flags and greeted the crowds. Behind them, families kept pace.

The parade also included marching performers from South Haven High School and Baseline Middle School's Purple Pride Bands. The performers played songs and chanted through the length of the parade, before quieting down as they approached the cemetery.

The band also paid respects after their performance. In an Instagram post later Monday, the Purple Pride Bands wrote, "A huge thank you to all of our veterans, and families of those that have served or given their lives in service."

Alongside the marchers and performers, many veterans and public figures drove through. Among them were Patrick Doud, the commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 667; Mayor Annie Brown; and members of the crowned "royalty" from South Haven schools.

Following the parade, a ceremony was held at Lake View Cemetery to honor soldiers that died while serving in the U.S. military.

South Haven Yacht Club hosts blood drive to save lives

By Michael Reo

The Versiti Blood Center of Michigan set up a blood drive along the water at the South Haven Yacht Club on May 24. The drive sought to obtain blood from donors to give to those in need around Michigan.

Community members set up appointments or came as walk-ins to give blood between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. The drive started with a goal of 22 units of blood and had received 24 units by the afternoon.

For some, the drive served as a quick way to give back to the community, but for Frank Gumino, an organizer of the event, the matter had personal importance.

"My wife and I's youngest daughter was diagnosed with very high-risk leukemia back when she was just 11 years old. She ended up going through two and a half years of intensive treatment," Gumino said. "During that time, specific to blood donation, she required at least 30 units of blood — platelets and everything — that essentially saved her life multiple times."

Gumino joined Versiti's advisory board in the fall, and in that role, he arranges drives to help others in similar situations to what his daughter went through. When he reached out to the yacht club, the club was very receptive to his mission.

Tara Nulty, the commodore of the yacht club, said her reaction to the proposition was fast and simple.

"It was an easy yes," Nulty said. "It was an opportunity to give back to the community in a way that we've never had before."

Later, when Nulty brought it to the yacht club's board, they also gave an immediate yes.

Gumino emphasized that the community was very important to the organization, and as such, the blood would be going back to that community.

"[Versiti is] our primary blood supplier here in South Haven," Gumino said. "All the blood that gets donated here stays here in Michigan."

At the same time, the community — and the cooperation of the yacht club, specifically — ensured that Versiti could receive donations, at all. Although the equipment and faculty were provided by the blood center, Versiti does not have the mobile facilities in Southwest Michigan to hold drives wherever necessary.

The Grand Rapids-based blood center, which collects around 135,000 units annually, is currently working to replenish the blood shortage that has been gripping the state and nation for years. According to the American Red Cross, earlier this year, less people were giving blood than any point in the last 20 years. America's Blood Centers only found 20% of blood centers across the country are able to "meet normal operating demands" at the moment.

Gumino said ensuring the supply was available was one of his reasons for organizing the drive.

"We just want to pay back for all the people that went before us, that were there," Gumino said. "Blood was there, platelets were there, and a lot of other things were there for her, to help save her life, so we want to do that for some of the unfortunate people that have to go through it today."

Gumino emphasized that although his family's history had its share of struggle, its difficulty was not unique.

"Everybody has a story and goes through hardships," Gumino said. "That just happens to be our particular one."

As of today, Gumino's daughter is well and working to help others going through similar experiences.

"She just recently graduated from nursing school a year ago. She works in a pediatric ICU unit now, helping kids like herself," Gumino said.

Gumino expressed hopes to host another blood drive in late summer or fall of this year.

Michigan Maritime Museum blesses fleet in seasonal kickoff event

By Michael Reo

Community members gathered on the docks outside of the Michigan Maritime Museum on the afternoon of May 24 to witness the "Blessing of the Fleet," an annual event preparing to enter a "safe and successful season." The blessing was given as a full house of attendees enjoyed a fish fry and other entertainment.

As gatherers entered through the museum, friends and families found each other and filled the dock. Brent Paige, the director of membership and marketing at the museum, said the event usually draws in a significant amount of museum members and nonmembers.

"It's our annual kickoff to the season, Memorial Day weekend, so we do have a lot of members in town, local members, and then local and regional residents that just want to be part of it," Paige said.

The museum, currently in its 50th year of operation, has held the event for the past 15 years. Each year, the museum's fleet — which was previously only one boat but has expanded to five — and other visiting boats receive an individual blessing in hopes of good fortune over the next maritime season

While the day began dreary, Pastor Bob Linstrom began by lightening the mood with some humor.

"For those who are worried about the weather — oh, ye of little faith — here we are," Linstrom said. "We've never had a rain out. We won't today, either."

Linstrom led attendees in prayer and song — alongside Pastor Stephanie Norton — before walking to each attending boat and performing a blessing. The museum's fleet included its star tall boat — Friends Good Will — as well as four others that it gained through the years: Merry Time, Lindy Lou, Elsie J and Bernida. The Coast Guard also arrived to receive a blessing, in addition to some other commercial watercrafts.

Paige said although the blessing is only in its 15th year at the museum, it has existed for many years before that elsewhere

"It's a longstanding maritime tradition," Paige said. "You see it in a lot of different cultures, a lot of different maritime activities."

The blessing is rooted in a history that goes as far back as the 1400s, in Italy. Many Mediterranean countries took up the tradition, and it carried over to the United States.

As Linstrom carried out the blessings, members that paid the $20 entrance fee or nonmembers that paid a $25 entrance fee received their food, catered by Captain Lou's. Meanwhile, the museum sold tickets for a 50/50 raffle. After the blessings, folk singer and Great Lakes native Lee Murdock performed a set.

Paige said the event served as a way for all in the South Haven maritime community to come together ahead of the summer.

"We are sort of the anchor — no pun intended — of the maritime district here in South Haven," Paige said. "We're able to accommodate additional visiting vessels in partnership with our friends at Gull Lake Marine … and through that it makes events like this possible."

Fishing competitions, boat races and more events are ramping up already. Harborfest and the Queen's Cup are expected to take to South Haven waters in mid-to-late June.

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Suspect faces multiple charges involving rail car tampering

Van Buren County Sheriff's Office Uniform Response was dispatched to an incident in Hartford Township involving a train. The investigating Sheriff's deputy found that a subject had uncoupled a rail car while the train was stopped for an issue. The conductor found the uncoupled rail car while doing an inspection prior to the train leaving under power. The deputy also found that the suspect had stolen railroad spikes while he trespassed and tampered with the rail car. The suspect was transported to the Van Buren County Jail for the incident on multiple charges.

A Van Buren County Sheriff's Office sergeant had a vehicle pursuit while working the seat belt grant in Hartford Township. The suspect fled from the sergeant for traffic violations and went off road shortly before bailing out on foot to run. Numerous law enforcement officers, deputies, and troopers were in the area and set up a perimeter very quickly. "While our canine was enroute, deputies spotted the suspect running in a field area. A foot chase ensued again, and the deputies were able to run the suspect down," said Sheriff Abbott. The suspect had several warrants issued for his arrest. The suspect was transported to the Van Buren County Jail on the warrants with holds placed for other counties that were also holding warrants on him. The suspect was also lodged on the new charges of flee and eluding, resisting and obstructing, driving while license suspended, improper plate, and no insurance.

Uniform Response took a larceny of 150 pounds of asparagus from a farm north of Decatur. An unknown subject stole from five lugs with an approximate value of $400 worth of asparagus. There was a possible vehicle of that being a dark blue Honda Ridgeline with a cargo rack on the roof. "Anyone with any information is asked to call our office," said Sheriff Abbott.

Uniform Response was dispatched to a welfare check in Antwerp Township. A family member called about a member of the family being suicidal and leaving the residence. Deputies were able to locate the subject in question in Mattawan at a gas station. "The subject did get the needed resources for the incident," said Sheriff Abbott.

Uniform Response was dispatched to a trespassing complaint in Porter Township. Deputies handled the complaint and advised the suspect neighbor if he came back on the caller's property, he'd be arrested. Fast forward to later in the evening, he trespassed again. With that, deputies transported him to the Van Buren County Jail for the incident.

Uniform Response recovered a stolen vehicle in Columbia Township. The vehicle was stolen in the Township from another location back in February.

Uniform Response was dispatched to a residence in Paw Paw Township for a subject that walked away from a residence that has dementia. While enroute to the residence, a call came in from another resident that had a subject come up to them a few miles away matching the description. The deputy went to the location where the walk away subject was at. The subject was transported to the hospital due to the heat and other circumstances.

Deputy's will continue to work the Seat Belt Grant. They have been observing and citing drivers for having no seat belts as well as other violations. They've also arrested drivers on the grant for operating under the influence, warrants, and other crimes.

Mining begins in Arlington Township

Arlington Township Board member Ron Klein was recently informed of an extraction mining operation that has begun on a 54-acre site located at County Road 215 and 42nd Avenue in Arlington Township, located northwest of Lawrence. The site is adjacent to Colburn Cemetery. The companies involved, R. Smith & Sons Trucking, Inc., and Michigan Materials and Aggregates Co. do not have a Special Use Permit from the township which is required under law to engage in aggregate mining, according to Klein. A non-conforming site plan was submitted one year ago by the parties and was reviewed by two experts for the township who provided the assessments requesting additional information, groundwater, run off, the nature of the operation and the disposition of soil at the site that had been a commercial orchard since 1948. The topsoil has already been removed and stockpiled, and the operation has encroached on the cemetery. "There are serious issues with the specific property, which was historically an orchard, which had been sprayed with pesticides and fungicides including lead-arsenic and other heavy metals. There are potential groundwater issues that have never been addressed. The encroachment upon the deeply historical Colburn Cemetery is inexcusable; it is unconscionable. It makes this Memorial Day much more significant," said Klein.

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Obituary

Russell George Heinzen

Russell George Heinzen, 85, of Paw Paw, passed away peacefully Friday, May 10, 2024, at Rose Arbor, Kalamazoo. Cremation has taken place. He was born July 8, 1938, in Maple Plain, Minnesota, the son of Harvey Heinzen and Florence (Japps) Heinzen.

On June 29, 1997, he married the love of his life; Ruth Elizabeth (Allen) Heinzen, who preceded in death, Feb. 9, 2022.

Also preceded in death were his parents, Harvey and Florence, and his step-son, David Thell.

Russ is survived by two brothers, Howard Heinzen and Dennis (Lois) Heinzen; one sister, DeeDee (George) Deluca; two adopted daughters, Debra Hunter and Renee (Marty) Hedin; one step-son, Jeff (Jody) Loehrs; seven grandchildren, Candace (Dan) Brown, Charity (Dave) Pikkaraine, Phillip, Keri-Ann (Ryan), Kyle Loehrs, Amanda (Nicholas) Dohrn, and Kennen Loehrs; 17 great-grandchildren, Cameron Meyer, Cameron Hunter, Cedric Swanson, Reece Pikkaraine, Alexis Hunter, Justin Brown, Lucy Loehrs, Dakotah, Landon, Ryder, Hannah, Carter, Gracie, Aralynn, Jake, Candice and Christine.

Russ was a dedicated over-the-road truck driver for 35 years. He always enjoyed reliving those days through his many stories of his adventures with his family and friends. In his later years, Russ kept active and busy tinkering with his many tools, fixing broken things and creating new things. Russ even loved summer yard work and winter snow clearing.

Family and friends were invited to a memorial gathering, Sunday, May 26, at Berkshire Apartments, 308 E Michigan Ave., Paw Paw. A memorial gathering will also be held in Minnesota, where Russ will be reunited with Ruth at their final resting place at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to the First Presbyterian Church in Maple Plain Cremation Columbarium Fund, 558 County Road 110, Maple Plain, MN, 55359.

Share a memory or sign the online guestbook at: adamspawpaw.com

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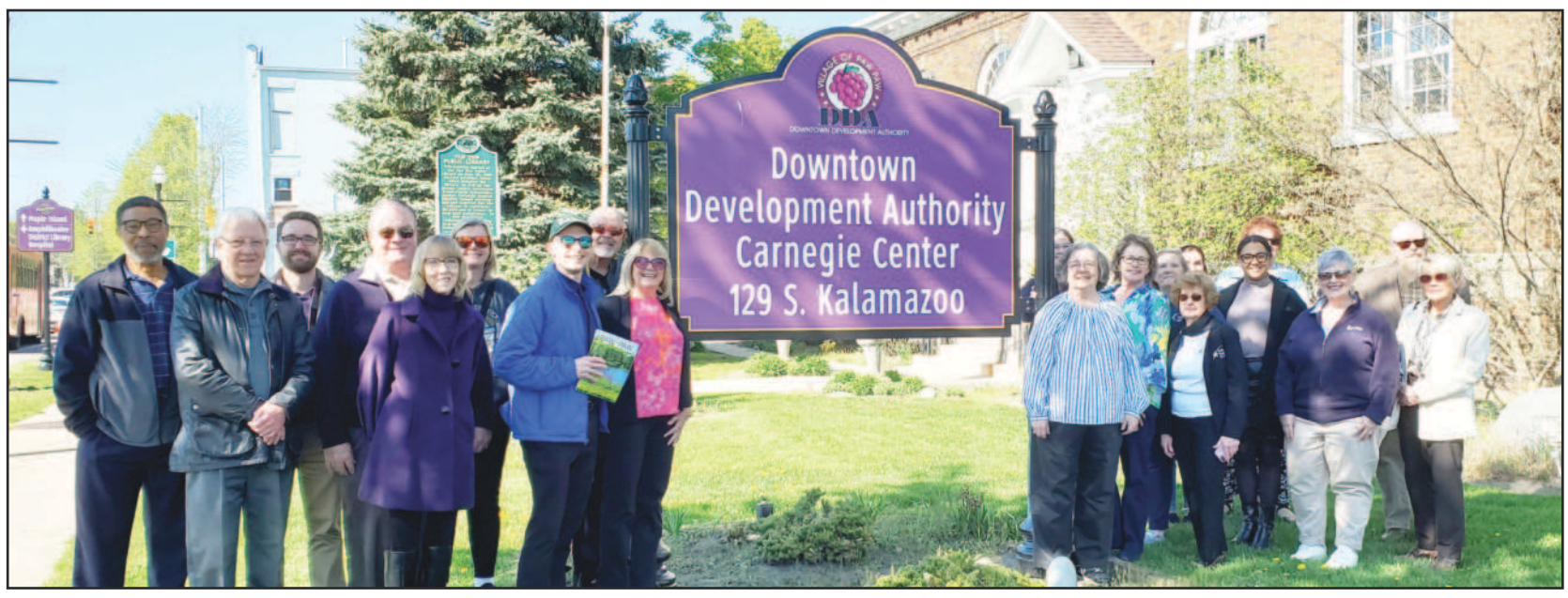
2ND FRONT PAGE

Paw Paw community unveils new downtown signage



SOUTH HAVEN - The South Haven/Van Buren County Convention & Visitors Bureau (SHVB CVB) and the Paw Paw Downtown Development Authority (DDA) recently unveiled new directional signs in downtown Paw Paw.

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on Thursday, April 25, to showcase the signs and celebrate the completion of the project. The two organizations came together to fund the project, which will help visitors easily find their way or get information during their visit.

"These new signs have been a longtime dream for us, and we're so excited to see them come to life," said Mary Springer, director of the Paw Paw DDA. "We have a great relationship with the team at the SHVB CVB and we're grateful to have collaborated with them on this project."

"This project directly aligns with our destination development efforts in South Haven and since our district spans all of Van Buren County, this was a win-win situation," said Jennifer Sistrunk, executive director of the SHVB CVB.

Springer says the completion of the project came at a great time as the community prepares for summer, where tourism ramps up. "We have a lot of great things happening in our community that we're excited for visitors to check out," said Springer. "Our shops, restaurants, wineries, and even our kayak launch are all great amenities to check out, and we're excited to welcome folks to Paw Paw this summer!"

Mattawan Lions Club hosted senior expo

The Mattawan Lions Club (MLC) and the Mattawan Lions Club Foundation (MLCF) hosted its first senior/veterans expo since COVID-19, with 46 vendors and approximately 170 senior and veterans in attendance. Participants received a complementary bag with assorted items donated by the MLC and MLCF. Vendors provided information as well as promotional items to participants. "We are pleased with the turnout and hope more come next year!" said MLC president, Carol Patridge.

Courier-Leader photo/Paul Garrod

PPFD places time capsule in ground

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The Paw Paw Volunteer Fire Department placed a time capsule Monday morning, May 27, at the fire station, 832 S. Gremps St. Gary Brown Sr., is shown as he provided masonry work in sealing the time capsule in the ground. The time capsule contained notes, newspapers, and other items that will be opened in 2068, marking the 200th anniversary of the fire department.

Courier-Leader photos/Paul Garrod

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SPORTS

McCaw putting close on his sports career

Ben McCaw has been a four-sport athlete at Lawrence.

By John Raffel

Ben McCaw's baseball season at Lawrence has been an impressive one.

It's been his senior season and his third year of varsity.

Last year Lawrence played 30 games and McCaw struck out only eight times. He batted a little over .500 and was second team all-state.

McCaw plays catcher for Lawrence. It's his third year at that spot. He was catcher on the JV level and also in rec ball.

"I'm pretty sure I decided ro play it," McCaw said. "I didn't really love the idea of playing it but said 'I'll do it. I like catcher a lot now. I enjoy playing the position. Baseball is a sport where you almost have to sit back and almost wait. Obviously you're still paying attention and waiting for the ball to be hit to you. At catcher it's more consistent, there's always action. It's fun because of that."

McCaw was hoping to hit as well this year as he did in 2023.

"The key to hitting well in high school is to worry about your corrections in practice and anything you need to be doing and when you come into the game to not think that much when you're at the plate," McCaw said.

Coming into the season, McCaw noted he had a young team.

"Last year we had over 20 wins but also had seven to nine seniors that either started or got a significant amount of playing time."

McCaw also played Lawrence football and basketball and said baseball is his favorite sport.

"This will be my last official sports season," he said.

McCaw was awarded the 2024 MHSAA Scholar Athlete Award at Michigan State University's Breslin Center during the boys basketball state finals.

Ben was the first LHS Tiger to earn this award in school history.

Mattawan lacrosse player having strong season

Talon Osmun, is a senior, lacrosse player for Mattawan.

By John Raffel
Correspondent

MATTAWAN – Talon Osmun, is a senior, lacrosse player at Mattawan who was in the sport four years in high school and 13 years overall.

He came into this season as a two-time all conference player. He's also had all region honors and has been honorable mention all-state.

Osmun's position is attacker.

"I feel I have good vision of the field and I can see open guys to give them opportunities for goals," he said.

Osmun feels he's improved every year.

The team got off to a 5-0 start.

"We've been doing strong," he said.

The farthest the team has gone in past years is regional semifinals and Osmun was confident his team could go farther in 2024 perhaps, all the way.

The team was 13-1 coming into this week and was slated to play at Byron Center on May 29 for the title. Osmun also played football but said lacrosse was his favorite sport.

"Every practice and every game I'm excited to be on the field," he said. "It's a really fun sport."

Osmun plans on playing NCAA Division 3 lacrosse at Mount Union in Ohio.

Lawrence softball team wins final home game

By John Raffel
Correspondent

The Lawrence Tiger varsity softball team won their final home game of the 2024 season last against the Eau Claire Beavers, 10-8, on a walk-off 2-run home run by Leslie Reed last week. The Beavers outscored the Tigers 7-1 through the third inning. The Tiger bats came alive in the fourth putting up three runs cutting the Beaver lead to 8-4. The Tigers would add on two more runs in the fifth and the sixth tying the game in the seventh inning. In the top of the seventh inning, the Tiger defense went down one-two-three including Hailey Camp striking out two. Camp finished with five strikeouts in the last three innings. In the bottom of the seventh, the first two Tigers failed to reach base. Kelsey Harroun stepped up with a two-out double to put herself in scoring position for the game winning run. Leslie Reed took an 0-1 pitch over the left field wall for a walk-off win. Leslie Reed led the Tigers with two doubles and a home run. Other hits were earned by Kaylin Leyva (one double, one single), Evelyn Waite (one double, one single), Hailey Camp (one double), Kelsey Harroun (one double), Alyssa Coombs (one hit), Ashley Reed (one hit), and Brooklyn Remelts (one hit). Alyssa Coombs started the Tigers in the circle with two strikeouts and Hailey Camp closed with five strikeouts.

On May 24, Lawrence split with St. Joseph Michigan Lutheran losing the first game 10-5 and winning the second 10-0

Paw Paw baseball sweeps South Haven

By John Raffel
Correspondent

PAW PAW – The Paw Paw baseball team on May 21 swept a doubleheader from South Haven on senior night. Pitching from Dylan Abnet and Jake Hindenach were dominant.

In game No. 1 the Red Wolves won 7-3. Abnet threw a complete game, no earned runs, and struck out nine. Leading the offense was Landon Buhl and Cade Owen. Buhl went 2-4 with a double, triple, and 3 RBIs.

Bowen was 2-for-3 with a stolen base. Gunnar Goodell was 1-2 with a double, an RBI, and two walks. Maverick went 1-3 with a clutch two-RBI single. Ryan Holmes added a single and an RBI. Hindenach chipped in with a single, walk, and stolen base.

In game No. 2 all the scoring took place in the first inning when Hindenach hit a two-run home run and completely dominated on the mound. The Red Wolves won 2-0. Jake threw a complete game with no earned run, one walk, two hits, and 13 strikeouts.

The only other hit was a single by Maverick Johnson.

"Jacob called two great games behind the plate and caught every inning in sweltering heat," Paw Paw coach Derek Vanderburg said.

On May 22, Paw Paw played Constantine on Wednesday and often and cruised to a 16-6 victory. Bryn Carlsen got the win on the mound going five innings, no walks, and four strikeouts. Remi pitched a scoreless final frame. The Red Wolves were led offensively by Ryan Holmes, Hindenach, Major and Dylan Abnet. Holmes went 3-3 with a double, 2 RBIs, and 2 BB. Jake was 2-4 with a triple, HR, and 4 RBIs.

Jake now holds the single season triple record for Paw Paw. Major went 2-4 with a triple and 2 RBIs. Abnet was 2-2. Gunnar Goodell was 1-1 with a double, HBP, and two walks. Drew was 1-1 with an RBI single. The Red Wolves record is now 21-11-1.

Jake Hindenach, a 2024 graduate of Paw Paw High School, recently signed a letter of intent to play baseball for Kellogg Community College, Battle Creek. Hindenach is shown with his parents, Angela and Erik Hindenach. Courier-Leader photo/Paul Garrod

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SPORTS

Lawrence senior first baseman having strong season

By John Raffel
Correspondent

LAWRENCE – Zander Payment is in his senior season for Lawrence as a first baseman and is enjoying his third year.

He was honorable mention all-state as a junior. He batted .415 last season for a team that only lost the title by one run.

This year's team is much younger with the loss of several seniors.

"I like the action of first base and being out there and making a play, backing up my guys. Even if it's a bad throw I can get it and count it as an out for them," Payment said.

He was looking at batting. 500 and improving from last year's stats.

"The key is tracking the ball down and watching it and keeping your head in, not trying to pull and watch the ball hit the bat," Payment said.

Teams like Decator and Centerville keep in a tough schedule for Lawerence.

Payment is a four-sport athlete. He also plays football, basketball and track. He throws the shot and discus in track.

Payment said basketball is his favorite sport but he finds a lot of uniqueness in baseball.

"It's big team sport," he said. "Everybody has to be doing their own thing and back each other up."

Last fall Payment earned all-state academic honors in football from the Michigan High Schoo Football Coaches Association.

Gobles track boys are sixth in league meet

By John Raffel
Correspondent

GOBLES – The Gobles Tigers hosted the SAC Meet on May 21 and despite the sun and heat the boys team were sixth place out of the 18 schools competing.

Honorable Mention all SAC honors go to the following. Mason Mansfield in the 200m Dash with a 4th place finish. Jackson Geiger in the Shot Put with a third place finish.

SAC All Conference honors went to Mason Mansfield in the 100 meter dash with a second place finish. Also, receiving All-Conference honors were the 4x100m relay with a second place finish (Eli Huizenga, Alex Lee, Nathan Ray, Mansfield), and the 4x200m relay also with a 2nd place finish (Eli Huizenga, Mansfield, Nathan Ray, Alex Lee).

There were some other impressive performances with a few personal records set. Steven Juarez set in the 200 meter dash (24.59), Ethan Wait in the 110 high hurdles (21.9), and Trystan Zaczek in the shot put (29-2).

In the state finals this Saturday, Mansfield will be competing in the 200 meters after placing third at regionals with a personal record of 23.53. Also competing at state is Gobles' 4x100 relay foursome of Eli Huizenga, Mason Mansfield, Nathan Ray and Alex Lee.

Jackson Geiger is going in the shot put for Gobles and Huizenga in the high jump.

Area golf teams stay busy

By John Raffel
Correspondent

PAW PAW – Paw Paw's boys golf team was fifth out of eight schools in the Wolverine Conference championships on May 22 at Pine View Golf Course.

Otsego won it at 306 followed by Vicksburg (309), Plainwell (318), Edwardsburg (324). Paw Paw (339) Niles (347), Sturgis (347), and Three Rivers (357).

Scorers for Paw Paw were Benny Miller (73), Tyler Klett (86), Bryce Barnett (89), Brady Holzworth (91), Liam Fisk (95) and Fisher Edwards (97).

Mattawan played on Thursday in a tournament at Bedford Valley Golf Course which is also the site of the Division I state tournament.

Warren DeLasalle won it with a 303 followed by Rochester Adams (305). Grand Blanc (307), Traverse City Central (308), Detroit Catholic Central (310). Lake Orion (311), South Lyon East (314) Oxford (314), U of D Jesuit (315), Rochester (317), Forest Hills Northern (320) and Dakota (324).

Mattawan was 16th at 335.

Griffen McClish (76) and Boston Bilek (81) led Mattawan while Leo Filippine (86), Bryson Ku (92) and Luke Roberts (96) also had key scores.

Gobles girls are second in SAC

By John Raffel
Correspondent

GOBLES – It was an impressive week of competing for the Gobles Varsity Girls Track team.

On Tuesday May 21, Gobles was in the SAC Conference Championships and ended up in second place out of 18 teams, finishing just behind Saugatuck. Individually, the Tigers set six personal records and broke two school records along the way.

Some PR's for the day were Charlotte Zantello in the discus with a throw of 77-10, Olivia Platt in the 100-meter dash with a 13.81, Liz Woodard in the 200 with a 28.45, Sasha Doll in the 100 hurdles with a 17.29, and Aly Tripp in the 100 hurdles with a 16.96.

Finishing with 1st team All-Conference honors were Madison Cooley: 2nd in the 800, Libby Smith: 1st in the 1600 and 3200, 3200 Relay team 1st place (Libby Smith, Lauren Shaffer, Zoie Wood, and Madison Cooley), 800 Relay team 1st place (Deanna Wood, Daisy Estrada, Abby Pattison, Aly Tripp) setting a new school record with a time of 1:47.00.

Earning All-Conference Honorable mention were Madison Cooley with a third-place finish in the 400 and the 400 Relay team of (Deanna Wood, Daisy Estrada, Liz Woodard, and Olivia Platt) finishing in 3rd place, but setting a new school record with a time of 51.17

On Saturday May 25th, the Lady Tigers traveled to Mount Pleasant to compete in the MITCA Team State Championships. They returned home as the number 2 Team in the state in Division 4. It was a complete team effort as they set 15 individual PRs and two relay season records, as well as breaking four school records in one day. An impressive PR of the day was Ella Ringel in the pole vault, clearing opening height for the first time when it counted most.

The 4x100 Relay team of (Deanna Wood, Daisy Estrada, Liz Woodard, and Aly Tripp) broke the first school record of the day by having three amazing handoffs and all fou ladies running blistering fast splits. The very next event of the day, Madison Cooley broke the 400 Meter dash record that has stood since 1995 with a time of 1:00.25. Three races later would be Daisy Estrada's turn to break her own school record in the 200 meter dash with a time of 26.18 seconds. The very next event, Libby smith broke the 3,200 meter school record running a time of 11:31.60.

GOBLES PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
ON PROPOSED 2024-2025 BUDGET

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on June 10, 2024, at 5:45 o'clock p.m., at Gobles MS/HS Library, 409 N. State Street, Gobles, Michigan, the Board of Education of Gobles Public Schools will hold a public hearing to consider the District's proposed 2024-2025 budget.

The Board may not adopt its proposed 2024-2025 budget until after a public hearing. A copy of the proposed 2024-2025 budget, including the proposed property tax millage rate, is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Superintendent's Office, 409 N. State Street, Gobles, Michigan and available online at:
https://www.gobles.org/page/board-of-education

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.1

This notice is given by order of the Board of Education.

Melanie Martin
Secretary

AREA CHURCH SERVICES

PAW PAW

ALMENA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
27503 CR 375
Pastor Len Schoenherr
668-2811
www.almenaumc.com
SUNDAY
Worship - 11 a.m.
(Childcare Provided)
FRIDAY: AA- 8 p.m.

••••

COVEY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH
33566 28th Avenue
(corner of 28th & M-40)
269-628-2139
www.coveyhill.org
Pastor Daniel Wilson
SUNDAY
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Nursery & Children's Church provided
Messages available on YouTube

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34580 M-40 Highway
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Christian Education - 10 a.m.
Wroship Service - 11:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible Study - 7 p.m.

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32464 Red Arrow
Pastor Horace M. "Buddy" Turner... 657-2090
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Worship - 11 a.m.
on Facebook:
www.Facebook.com/buddyturner2 or search: "Buddy Turner"

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
120 Pine St., Box 435
Paw Paw, MI 49079
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firstpres120@gmail.com
Webpage:
www.pawpawpres.com
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NEW HOPE FAMILY
201 W. Michigan Avenue
Pastor Mark Roberts
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Morning Worship - 10 a.m.

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Oline worship services on Facebook & YourTube

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PAW PAW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
420 W. Michigan Ave.
Pastor Len Schoenherr
657-7727
SUNDAY
Service time - 9:30 a.m.
Visit: www.pawpawumc.com
Online worship at Facebook page "Paw Paw United Methodist Church"

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RED ARROW MINISTRIES
31133 Red Arrow Highway
Rev. G. Ben Bowater, IV
Founding Pastor
SUNDAY
Worship - 9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.
www.redarrowministries.org for live stream worship

••••

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412 Cedar Street
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657-3762
www.stmarkpawpaw.com
e-mail: stmarkspawpaw@gmail.com
Mailing Address:
P.O.Box 307, Paw Paw, MI 49079
SUNDAY
Worship 9:30 a.m.

••••

ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
500 Paw Paw Street
Rev. Fr. Alan P. Jorgensen
657-4459
SATURDAY
Vigil - 4:00 p.m.
SUNDAY
Masses- 8 a.m. & 11 a.m.
Holy days & Daily Masses
Consult Bulletin

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Pastor Phillip Phifer
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School: 657-5921
Sunday
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TRUTH CHURCH
32560 56th Ave.
www.truthchurchpawpaw.com
Pastor Steven Green
657-5042
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Evening Service - 6 p.m.
THURSDAY
Bible Study - 7 p.m.

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Bilingual
Pastors Maggie and Jay Salas
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Adoración | Worship- 10 a.m.
Jueves/Thursday:
Oracion/ Estudió Bíblico | Prayer/Bible Study- 7 p.m.
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Morning Service - 10:30 a.m.
(In person and on Facebook)

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MATTAWAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
23680 Front Ave.
668-3263
www.mattawancc.com
mattawancommunitychurch@gmail.com
Pastor Rev. Jonathan Lam
SUNDAY
Worship - 10:25 a.m.

••••

ST. JOHN BOSCO CATHOLIC CHURCH
23830 Front Ave.
Rev. Fr. Alan P. Jorgensen
668-3312
www.stjohnbosco.com
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Mass - 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.
SATURDAY
4 p.m.

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04077 M40
269-628-9199
northpointgobles@gmail.com
Pastors: Gary Lounsberry & John Losen Jr.
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Monday: 7 pm - REFRESH Bible Study
Wednesday: 7pm - Prayer Meeting

LAWTON

DAILY HARVEST MINISTRIES
117 S.Franklin Street
Pastor Jack Shanley
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Worship - 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible Study - 6 p.m.

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IGLESIA PENTECOSTES
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Martes y Jueves - 7:30 p.m.
Local: (269) 655-8071

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facebook.com/nc2online
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ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
624-1050
Pastor Ashlei Horn
SUNDAY
Worship - 11:00 a.m.
www.stpoulsumclawton.com or on Facebook
www.Facebook.com/Lawton-St-Pauls-UMC

MARCELLUS

ST. MARGARET MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH
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Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer 5:00 p.m.
facebook.com/DecaturBibleChurch
http://www.decaturbible.org

••••

Decatur New Hope Community Church
319 ½ West Delaware Street
Pastor Ross Tarantino
SUNDAY
Worship Service-10:00 a.m.
TUESDAY
Bible Study-1:00 p.m.
269-423-8136
info@decaturnewhopecommunity.net

LAWRENCE

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231 W. James St.
674-4381
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Morning Worship - 11 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Service - 7 p.m.

••••

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lawrencemethodist-church.org for information of online videos

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VIEWPOINT

UKRAINE-RUSSIA WAR MUST BE STOPPED

MIKE'S MUSINGS

MIKE WILCOX
PUBLISHER

Here I go again. One of my favorite rants is "Why do we send so much money and weapons to Ukraine to further a war they will never win?

As a country we are nearly $34 trillion in debt and have a homeless problem that gets greater by the day. Our groceries and gas are on an upward trend and many of us can't afford housing because rents and mortgages are higher than they have been for years.

Yet we continue to throw money at a war that has no strategic importance to us, and for that matter we refuse to close our southern border and allow millions of illegal aliens to siphon money and resources from us- Americans.

Thousands, maybe a million Ukrainians, have been killed in this war with Russia. It needs to stop and Zelenskyy and Putin need to be forced to the bargaining table. One of the ways that can happen is for the U.S. to stop funding. Zelenskyy without our money will essentially be forced to make peace, and guess what, stop the killing of innocent Ukrainians.

U.S. warmongers, however, would insist this would be a victory for Russia and their first domino and taking back Eastern Europe. They claim Russia won't stop with Ukraine, but will next wage war in Poland, or some other neighboring country.

I don't see that coming. Russia's army has been wounded substantially by the brave Ukrainian forces. I don't think, if they want to, they would be up for taking on Poland and its NATO allies. They simply don't have the manpower and weaponry left to continue into NATO land.

But back to the money you and I give to fight the good war in Ukraine. Don't you wonder where it all goes? I know there are a few members in Congress who have asked the question- have actually sought accountability or auditing of our dollars. But those members are treated with disrespect. The mantra is we must give us much money as Zelenskyy needs, because it is a noble cause, and he, better than us, knows where and how to direct the money.

I say poppycock. Try to get a governmental contract for your small business. If you have you know there is an enormous amount of paperwork you must provide. You must account for every penny. Why is it different for Zelenskyy?

Some of us know why. The warmongers in Washington D.C. control Congress, and if there is an opportunity to engage in war, they are likely to be all in. Billions of dollars are made by those in control by providing goods, weaponry, lobbying, etc etc. The rich, those in control of our military industrial complex get richer, and you and I, the taxpayers funding wars, get poorer. It's always been that way. War means money, lots of it, for those in control.

Therefore, it is in their best interest to stifle contrarian opinions, like mine. I will get all kinds of blowback from readers claiming the war is just, and we must continue to arm Ukraine until they triumph. To those in power who are making millions off this war I only point to the thousands of innocent civilians who have died. You can blame Russia, and rightfully so, but you also need to take a look in the mirror. Stop this war now.

LIFE AS PERFORMANCE ART

G CORWIN STOPPEL

For the past few summers, writers for the British magazine The Chap have met with other friends, wives and sweethearts for their annual Grand Flaneur.

Last year some 60 chaps (aka toffs) and chapettes, the latter wearing wide-brimmed hats and parasols to protect them from the English sun. The chaps wore straw boaters, ties, three-piece double-breasted suits and spats on a recent Sunday flaneur in London. At the same time, some 60 German flaneurs rambled through Dusseldorf.

Flaneur in French means to wander aimlessly. There is no set destination, no recording of miles nor time spent doing it.

This behavior seems suspiciously unamerican. Here in the States we make plans, organize, pack provisions in backpacks, plot our route on a GPS and dress for comfort, not to make an appearance.

Flaneuring strikes us as a waste of time; a competitive hike from point to point is more like it. Perhaps we make sure to take the minimum 10,000 steps a day some say we need to maintain a solid cardiovascular system and ward of dementia.

Flaneurs go walking for the fun of it. Ernest Hemingway thought one reason Paris boasted so many philosophers, writers and painters was because the city provided a great opportunity to wander the streets while emptying the mind.

An artist would see or hear something, have an idea, walk further to think it over, then hurry back to their studio to work.

In London people often spotted another type of flaneur wandering through the streets mid-day: a big, bulky man with an untidy moustache and wearing odd clothing.

They would see him stop suddenly, dig through his pockets for a piece of paper and pencil, and with a letterbox or phone booth for backing jot down some notes. It was author G.K. Chesterton preparing another Father Brown mystery

When Pat and I married, we realized we didn't need nor want more stuff to fill our garage or some storage unit. We decided to save and invest our money in travel experiences.

Group tours offered guides who got us from place, often to popular museums and art galleries, without having to stand behind long lines. They arranged for lodging and meals. All we had to do was turn up in time and participate.

The frustration was we couldn't linger over favorite discoveries because the rest of the group wanted to move on to what was next on or itinerary. We were on a schedule. One guide shouted "Chop! Chop!" to hurry us along.

It was like the 1969 movie "If This is Tuesday, It Must be Belgium" where a group of Americans went on a whirlwind 9-country tour in 18 days.

The first time we went to Paris on our own, we had a long list of places to see and things to do in just one week. For the most part, we checked them off, but we collapsed exhaustedly into our plane seats for the flight home.

Next time we went to Paris we decided to flaneur through its sights and sounds, which worked out quite well. One day we took the subway to the end of the line six miles away, so we could flaneur back to the hotel. We spotted a perfume factory, toured it and learned how it makes scents for men and women.

We spoke with college students there on tour and asked whether they were enjoying Paris. "Definitely," one said. "This morning we went to the top of the Eiffel Tower, to the Louvre to see the Mona Lisa and now we're here. Tomorrow we go to (you guessed it) Belgium."

After they were on the bus the next morning, Pat and I had coffee and cheese at the hotel and flaneured around town some more. Pat wanted visit some department stores, so I struck out on my own, agreeing to meet back at the hotel in time for dinner and to share pir experiences.

The French call window shopping "window licking." She licked and browsed while I ran into a 1920s-era jazz band which invited me to join on the baritone sax. We jammed before being moved along by gendarmes who clearly had no ear for music.

We never did see Mona Lisa, but there would always be another time.

You don't get that sort of fun on a guided tour. But you needn't join the chaps in England or Dusseldorf, nor fly to Paris, to go flaneuring, even in your hometown.

For decades people have told me to take a hike, and this is the perfect time for it. No agenda, no plans, just go and be like the bear who went over the mountain to see what he could see.

AREA NEWS BRIEF

Paw Paw Church to Hold Cowboy Church

PAW PAW - New Hope Family Church, 201 W. Michigan Ave., Paw Paw, will hold a special event, Cowboy Church, June 8. All are welcome to attend the award-winning Cowboy Church. A potluck dinner will be held at 6 p.m., followed by the program at 7.

RSVPs are encouraged for event organizers to plan accordingly. Those planning to attend may email Diane Barton at: dianeleebarton@gmail.com or text at: (269) 355-5170. Those attending are also encouraged to bring a dish to pass.

The event will be held behind the church. People can sit on the hillside on blankets or camp chairs. In case of rain, it will be held inside the church.

Amtrak announces bridge updates in Antwerp Township

Amtrak will be completing bridge updates at two locations in Antwerp Township resulting in road closures.

Bridge over Robinson Avenue Southwest of Mattawan:

Road closure is expected to last from June 4 to Nov. 1. Traffic will be able to turn east from 26th Street to Robinson Avenue and west from Glidden to Robinson Avenue.

Bridge over County Road 657 between 64th Avenue and 66th Avenue:

Road closure is expected to last from July 8 to Nov. 1. The detour route follows Drape Road and 66th Avenue.

For any questions regarding these closures, contact the contractor, Anlaan Corporation, at (616) 846-8442.

MDOT Plans Road work in Van Buren County

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be investing $3.8 million to resurface more than 39 miles of M-40, M-43, US-12, and I-196 in Berrien and Van Buren counties. Work includes crack filling, surface sealing and pavement markings. Work was scheduled to begin Wednesday, May 29, and is scheduled to be completed by Aug. 30.

- **M-40** between the Cass/Van Buren County line and 72nd Avenue (6.4 miles).
- **M-40** between 51st Avenue and M-43 (4.5 miles).
- **M-40** between M-43 and the Van Buren/Allegan County line (8.3 miles).
- **M-43** between M-40 and the Van Buren/Kalamazoo County line (5.2 miles).
- **Southbound I-196** from the Berrien/Van Buren County line to Coloma Road, including the southbound I-196 ramps at Hagar Shore Road Exit 7 (4.8 miles).
- **US-12** from the Michigan/Indiana state line to the US-12/ Red Arrow Highway intersection (5.1 miles).
- **US-12** from the US-12/Red Arrow Highway intersection to the bridge over the South Branch of the Galien River (2.6 miles).
- **Southbound I-196** from Van Buren Trail bridge to the pavement change at the old Covert Rest Area (2.5 miles).

Traffic restrictions will be single-lane closures under flag control. Based on economic modeling, this investment is expected to support 46 jobs directly and indirectly.

This work will repair and preserve highway pavement, extending its service life and improving safety for motorists.

Paw Paw American Legion Seeks financial donations from the public to purchase ballistic shields for PP police department.

PAW PAW - Following the Paw Paw Memorial Day ceremony, May 27, Robert "Bob" Adams, a member of the Paw Paw American Legion McGowan-Johnson Post 68, said that the Paw Paw American Legion will be seeking financial donations to help law enforcement during school shootings.

"In the 2020s there has been 197 school shooting incidents – with nine in Michigan," said Adams.

"On May 24, 2022, in Uvalde, Texas, there was a school shooting. I vividly remember the scene on television where a group of police were standing at the end of the hall without going in after the killer. My PTSD (Post-traumatic stress disorder) kicked in," said Adams.

"What was lacking? Tactics? Protection?" said Adams.

Adams met with Paw Paw Chief of Police Eric Rottman and discussed his thoughts.

"I just got the ok to partner with the Village of Paw Paw to purchase ballistic shields for each patrol car," said Adams.

Why the village of Paw Paw?

"They have patrol cars on the road in Paw Paw and can respond to any school within a few minutes," said Adams.

Adams said checks may be made payable to PNC Bank and mailed to the Paw Paw American Legion Post 68, P.O. Box 19, Paw Paw, MI, 49079. Please indicate the donor's name, address, and phone number on a piece of paper. Also note the Paw Paw Police Department.

Adams said he is willing to help other villages with ballistic shields if they would like to join in.

THE COURIER LEADER & PAW PAW FLASHES

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TOWNSHIP OF ANTWERP NOTICE OF BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

The Antwerp Township Board will hold a public hearing on the proposed township budget for fiscal year 2024-2025 at the Antwerp Township Hall, 24821 Front Ave, Mattawan, Michigan, on Tuesday June 4 th at 6:00pm. **THE PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE PROPOSED TO BE LEVIED TO SUPPORT THE BUDGET WILL BE A SUBJECT OF THIS HEARING.** A copy of the budget is available for public inspection at Antwerp Township Hall.

This notice is posted in compliance with PA167 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act), MCLA 41.72 (2)(3) and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Services for individuals with disabilities, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed material being considered at the meeting will be provided upon 5 days notice to the Antwerp Township Board. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids and Note: This meeting is planned to be held at the Township offices at 24821 Front Street Mattawan. Confirmation of the meeting format will be provided on the Township's website by May 25. You may also email creyna@antwerptownship.com to confirm this information on or after this date:

Chantel Reyna
24821 Front Avenue
Mattawan, MI 49071
269-668-2615 x-200

Antwerp Township Clerk

2023 WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR THE VILLAGE OF PAW PAW

Water Supply Serial Number: MI0005210

This report covers the drinking water quality for the Village of Paw Paw for the 2023 calendar year. This information is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided to you in 2023. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and state standards.

Your water comes from three groundwater wells, each over 110, 160, and 178 feet deep. The State performed an assessment of our source water to determine the susceptibility or the relative potential of contamination. The susceptibility rating is on a seven-tiered scale from "very-low" to "very-high" based on geologic sensitivity, well construction, water chemistry and contamination sources. The susceptibility of our source is moderately low for wells #6 & #8, and moderately high for back-up well #4.

There are no significant sources of contamination in our water supply. We are making efforts to protect our sources by participating in the State of Michigan Wellhead Protection Program and following the EGLE annual drinking water monitoring schedule.

If you would like to know more about the report, please contact Tim Brandys, Department of Public Services Director, 110 Harry L. Bush Blvd, Paw Paw, Michigan, 49079, phone number 269-657-3169. Copies are available at the Paw Paw Village Hall. The report is also posted on the Village's Website, www.pawpaw.net (click on the left hand menu item titled Public Services and then click on the item titled "Consumer Confidence Report **2023".** This report is not being mailed to all water customers.

Contaminants and their presence in water: Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the **U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).**

Vulnerability of sub-populations: Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune systems disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. U.S. EPA/Center for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the **Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).**

Sources of drinking water: The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. Our water comes from wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- **Microbial contaminants,** such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants,** such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- **Pesticides and herbicides,** which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture and residential uses.
- **Radioactive contaminants,** which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- **Organic chemical contaminants,** including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations that limit the levels of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Federal Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which provide the same protection for public health.

WATER QUALITY DATA

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2023 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 through December 31, 2023. The State allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. All the data is representative of the water quality, but some are more than one year old.

Terms and abbreviations used below:

- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- **Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **N/A:** Not applicable
- **ND:** not detectable at testing limit
- **ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter
- **ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter
- **ppt:** parts per trillion or nanograms per liter
- **pCi/l:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
- **Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- **Level 1 Assessment:** A study of the water supply to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
- **Level 2 Assessment:** A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

1 Monitoring Data for Regulated Contaminants

Regulated Contaminant	MCL, TT, or MRDL	MCLG or MRDLG	Level Detection	Range	Year Sampled	Violation Yes/No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Arsenic (ppb)	10	0	4.7	4.7- 4.7	2023	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.160	0.160-0.160	2023	NO	Discharge of dilling wastes; Discharge of metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	ND	N/A	2023	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.180	0.000-0.180	2023	NO	Erosion of narutal deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Sodium[1] (ppm)	N/A	N/A	21	15-21	2023	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
TTHM Total Trihelomethanes (ppb)	80	N/A	20	N/A	2023	NO	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	60	N/A	ND	N/A	2023	NO	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine[2] (ppm)	4	4	0.49	0.16-0.86	2023	NO	Water additive used to control microbes
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	15	0	1.3	0-1.3	2014	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined radium (pCi/L)	5	0	0.578	0.458-0.578	2020	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Coliform (total number of % of positive samples/ month)	TT	0	N/A	N/A	2023	NO	Naturally present in the enviroment
E. coli in the distribution system (positive samples)	See E. coli note [3]	0	N/A	N/A	2023	NO	Human and animal fecal wast
Fecal Indicator- E. coli at the source (positive samples)	TT	0	N/A	N/A	2023	NO	Human and animal fecal wast

[1] Sodium is not a regulated contaminant. [2] The chlorine "Level Detected" was calculated using a running annual average. 3 E.Coli MCL violation occurs if (1) routine and repeat samples are total coliform-positive and either is E.coli-positive or(2) the supply fails to take all required repeat samples following E. coli-positive routine sample, or (3) the supply fails to analyze total coliform-positive repeat sample for E. coli.
[1] E. coli MCL violation occurs if: (1) routine and repeat samples are total coliform-positive and either is E. coli-positive, or (2) the supply fails to take all required repeatamples following
[2] The chlorine "Level Detected" was calculated using a running annual average.

Per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)							
Regulated Contaminant	**MCL, TT, or MRDL**	**MCLG or MRDLG**	**Level**	**Range**	**Year Sampled**	**Violation Yes/ No**	**Typical Source of Contaminant**
Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HFPO-SA) (ppt)	370	N/A	ND	N/A	2023	No	Discharge and waste from industrial facilities utilizing the Gen X chemical process
Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS) (ppt)	420	N/A	ND	N/A	2023	No	Discharge and waste from industrial facilities; stain-resistant treatments
Perfluorohexane sulfonic scid (PFHxS) (ppt)	51	N/A	ND	N/A	2023	No	Firefighting foam; discharge and waste from industrial facilities
Perfuorohexanoic acid (PFHxA) (ppt)	400,000	N/A	ND	N/A	2023	No	Firefighting foam; discharge and waste from industrial facilities
Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) (ppt)	6	N/A	ND	N/A	2023	No	Discharge and waste from industrial facilities; breakdown of precursor compounds
Perfluorooctane sulfanic acid (PFOS) (ppt)	16	N/A	ND	N/A	2023	No	Firefighting foam; discharge from electroplating facilities; discharge and waste from industrial facilities
Perfluoroocatane acid (PFOA) (ppt)	8	N/A	ND	N/A	2023	No	Discharge and waste from industrial
Inorganic Contaminant Subject to Action Levels (AL)	**Action Level**	**MCLG**	**Your Water[4]**	**Range of**	**Year Sampled**	**Number of Samples Above AL**	**Typical Source of Contaminant**
Lead (ppn)	15	0	2	0-4	2022	0	Lead service lines, corrosion of household plumbing including fittings and fixtures; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.01	0-0.2	2022	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

[4] Ninety (90) percent of the samples collected were at or below the level reported for our water.

INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD: If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Village of Paw Paw is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you have a lead service line it is recommended that you run your water for at least 5 minutes to flush water from both your home plumbing and the lead service line. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Our water supply has an unknown number of lead service lines at this time. 447 service lines of are of unknown material out of a total of 1,120 service lines. In 2023, 68 services were investigated and replaced. This makes a total of 500 serviced lines replaced and 173 confirmed to be non-lead, thereby not requiring replacement. The village has replaced approximately 60 % of service lines to date. This year and following years the Village has an aggressive program to continue service line investigation and replacement.

Monitoring and Reporting to the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Requirements: The State and EPA require us to test our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. We met all of the monitoring and reporting requirements for **2023**.

We will update this report annually and will keep you informed of any problems that may occur throughout the year, as they happen. Copies are available at the Paw Paw Village Hall. The report is also posted on the Village's Website, www.pawpaw.net (click on the left hand menu item titled Public Services and then click on the item titled "Consumer Confidence Report **2023".** This report is not being mailed to all water customers.

We invite public participation in decisions that affect drinking water quality. You may contact the Village of Paw Paw Council, which meets the second and fourth Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the Paw Paw District Library, 609 West Michigan, Paw Paw, Michigan. For more information about your water, or the contents of this report, contact Tim Brandys, Department of Public Services Director, 110 Harry L. Bush Blvd, Paw Paw, Michigan, 49079, phone number 269-657-3169. For more information about safe drinking water, visit the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at http://www.epa.gov/safewater.

PUBLIC NOTICES

TO: RONALD L. OLSEN. PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT YOU HAVE BEEN NAMED AS A DEFENDANT IN THE CIVIL MATTER OF NESTOR A. BARRERA-REGALADO V. RONALD L. OLSON,
which is pending in the 36 th Circuit Court of Van Buren County before Judge David J. DiStefano, in relation to a motor vehicle collision that occurred on November 15, 2023, in Van Buren County, Michigan. Failure to take action as required under the Michigan Rules of Court within 21 days of this publication notice, could result in a default judgment being entered against you. The Case number is 24-073699-NI.
Answer must be filed with the 36 th Circuit Court in the County of Van Buren. Contact Paul E. Shibley at (231) 725-8444 for more information.
(5-30)(6-13)

State of Michigan Probate Court
Van Buren County
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
DECEDENT'S ESTATE
CASE NO. 2024-1068-DE
JUDGE Hon. Susan Metzger
(P62867)
ESTATE OF
ARLIE CHESTER HAMMON III, Deceased, Date of Birth: September 22, 1954 (9/22/1954)
TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS:
The decedent,Arlie Chester Hammon III, died March 27, 2024 (3/27/2024).
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to **Stephanie Eversley,** personal representative, or to both the probate court at 212 E. Paw Paw St., Suite 220, Paw Paw, MI 49079 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
May 17, 2024

Attorney:
Thav, Ryke & Associates
Daniel Relle P85557
24725 W. 12 Mile Road
Suite 110
Southfield, MI 48034
248-945-1111

Personal Representative(s):
Stephanie Eversley
15130 Hollyside Dr.
Dumfries, VA 22035
757-282-1392

State of Michigan Probate Court
Van Buren County
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
DECEDENT'S ESTATE
CASE NO. 2024-1093-DE
ESTATE OF
MICHAEL EARL COX,
Deceased, Date of Birth: December 21,1949 (12/21/1949)
TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Michael Earl Cox, died January 8, 2024 (1/8/2024).
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to **Mary J. Nelson,** personal representative, or to both the probate court at 212 E. Paw Paw St., Suite 220, Paw Paw, MI 49079 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
May 21, 2024

Attorney:
Cordell R. Jones (P15567)
JONES LAW OFFICE
120 West Main, Box 187
Marcellus, MI 49067
269/646-5511

Personal Representative(s):
Mary J. Nelson
120 31st South
Battle Creek, MI 49015
269/924-9577

State of Michigan Probate Court
Van Buren County
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
DECEDENT'S ESTATE
CASE NO. 2024-1104-DE
ESTATE OF
WANDA MARGUERITE MANVILLE, Deceased,
Date of Birth: April 30,1952 (4/30/1952)
TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS:
The decedent, Wanda Marguerite Manville, died April 3, 2024 (4/3/2024).
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to **Dale A. Seiting,** personal representative, or to both the probate court at 212 E. Paw Paw St., Suite 220, Paw Paw, MI 49079 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
May 22, 2024

Attorney:
Robert Puckett P33883
2620 S. Cleveland Ave, Ste 206
St. Joseph, MI 49085
269-428-0900

Personal Representative(s):
Dale A. Seiting
616 Plantation Street
Mesquite, TX 75150
214-240-3064

State of Michigan Probate Court
Van Buren County
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
DECEDENT'S ESTATE
CASE NO. 2024-1101-DE
JUDGE Hon. Susan Metzger
(P62867)
ESTATE OF
PAMELA L. ARKAUSKAS,
deceased
TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Pamela L. Arkauskas, Deceased, died March 17, 2024 (3/17/2024).
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to **Johnny R. Pittman,** personal representative, or to both the probate court at 212 E. Paw Paw St., Suite 220, Paw Paw, MI 49079 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
May 24, 2024

Attorney:
Schuitmaker Moraitis Law Office, P.C.
Christopher N. Moraitis P87052
181 West Michigan Ave.,
Ste. 1, P.O.Box 520
Paw Paw, MI 49079
269-657-3177

Personal Representative(s):
Johnny R. Pittman
62290 36th Avenue
Bangor, MI 49013
269-767-0220

NOTICE TO CREDITORS, TRUST ESTATE
TO ALL CREDITORS:
The Settlor, Robert Henry Leedy (date of birth) May 16, 1950, who lived at 28682 37th Street, Paw Paw, Michigan, died April 11, 2024. There is no personal representative of the settlor's estate to whom Letters of Administration have been issued. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims agains the Robert Henry Leedy Trust dated, May 9, 2024, as amended, will be forever banned unless presented to Michael T. Stamm Successor Trustee, within four months after the date of publication. Notice is further given that the Trust will therafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.
May 9, 2024

Successor Trustee:
Michael T. Stamm
28122 37th St.
Paw Paw, MI 49079
269-532-4070

State of Michigan 36th Judicial Circuit - Family Division Van Buren County
PUBLICATION OF HEARING (NOTICE TO PUTATIVE FATHER)
Case No. 24-019974-NA
Petition No. 01
Judge Hon. Jeffrey Dufon
Court 212 E. Paw Paw St.,
Paw Paw, MI 49079
269-657-8236
IN THE MATTER OF: RAINUH COOK, MINOR
TAKE NOTICE: FATHER OF RAINUH COOK
A petition has been filed with this court regarding the following minor(s):
Rainuh Cook who was born on **March 18,2024 (3/18/2024) at Grand Rapids, Michigan.**
The mother of the minor(s) is Lacey Mason. If you are or may be the natural father, you should appear at **Courtroom 2, 212 E. Paw Paw St., Paw Paw, MI 49079 on June 12,2024 (6/12/2024) at 3:00 P.M.** to state any interest you may have in the minor(s).
Failure to appear at this hearing is a denial of interest in the minor(s), waiver of notice for all subsequent hearings, and a waiver of a right to appointment of an attorney. Failure to appear at this hearing **COULD RESULT IN PERMANENT TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS.**

State of Michigan Probate Court
Van Buren County
PROOF OF SERVICE
FILE NO. 24-1099-DE
IN THE MATTER OF JAMES ELWIN SUMNER, deceased
1. Titles of the paper service or mailed: Personal Representative Notice to the Friend of the Court 2. Acording to court rule, I served by first-class mail the papers described above on:
VAN BUREN COUNTY FRIENDS OF THE COURT
203 S. Niles St.,
Paw Paw, MI 49079
Date May 23, 2024 (5/23/2024)
I declare under the penalties of perjury that this proof of service has been examined by me and that its contents are true to the best of my information, knowledge, and belief.
May 23,2024
Candace Grauman

State of Michigan 7th Judicial District Judicial Circuit County Probate
ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION/ POSTING AND NOTICE OF ACTION
CASE NO. 23-0729-GC

Court address 1007 E. Wells St.
South Haven, MI 49090
Court phone: 269-637-5259

Plaintiff(s):
Omni Community Credit Union
P.O. Box 1537
Battle Creek, MI 49016
Plaintiffs Attorney
Lewis Reed & Allen, P.C.
Lana M. Escamilla P71275
136 E. Michigan Ave.,
Suite 800
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
269-388-7600
V
Defendant(s):
Nathaniel Howell
50316 M-43 114
Bangor, MI 49013

TO: NATHANIEL CHRISTOPHER HOWELL
IT IS ORDERED:
1. You are being sued in this court by the plaintiff to collect moneys due in the amount of $20,994.58, plus posting, filling costs, interest & attorney's fees. You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in this court at the court address above on or before 28 days for the last publication. If you fail to do so, a default judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint filed in this case.
2. A copy of this order shall be published once each week in Courier-Leader for three (3) consecutive weeks, and proof of publication shall be filed in this court.
3. Court Officer Lew Koch shall post a copy of this order in the courthouse, and at Van Buren County Courthouse, Paw Paw, Michigan and at Van Buren District Library, Bangor, Michigan for three (3) continuous weeks, and shall file proof of posting in this court.
4. A copy of this order shall be sent to Nathaniel Christopher Howell at the last- known address by registered mail, return receipt requested, before the date of the last publication, and the affidavit of mailing shall be filed with this court.
May 16, 2024

Arthur H. Clarke, III P29110

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE BY ADVERTISEMENT
Default has been made in the condition of a certain Mortgage, made on December 29, 2020, by MOORMANN PRINTING, INC., a Michigan corporation, as Mortgagor, to the VILLAGE OF DECATUR, a Michigan municipal corporation, as Mortgagee.
Such Mortgage was recorded on November 16, 2021, in the office of the Register of Deeds for Van Buren County, State of Michigan, at Liber 1729, Page 229. There is claimed to due and owing the sum of TWENTY THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED TWENTY-NINE DOLLARS AND 53/100 ($20,629.53), as of the date of this Notice, plus interest at the rate of 7.00% from and after May 1, 2024, which amount may or may not be the entire indebtedness owed by MOORMANN PRINTING, INC. to the VILLAGE OF DECATUR.
No legal or equitable proceeding has been instituted to recover the debt, or any part of the debt, secured by said Mortgage. The power of sale in said Mortgage has become operative by reason of the default, and the Mortgagor hereby declares the entire unpaid amount of said Mortgage to be due and payable. Notice of foreclosure by advertisement: Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 p.m., on June 6, 2024.
The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. The place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County is the Van Buren County Courthouse, 212 E. Paw Paw Street, Paw Paw, Michigan, 49079. The lands and premises mentioned and described in the Mortgage are as follows: Property located in the Village of Decatur, County of Van Buren, and State of Michigan, described as follows: Commencing at a point on the Easterly line of Phelps Street as it now exists, 72 feet Southerly and 12 feet Easterly at right angles to said street line from the Northwesterly corner of Lot 11, Block "D" of the Village of Decatur, as originally platted and said plat recorded; thence Easterly at right angles to said Phelps Street 90 feet; thence Northerly parallel with said street, 34 feet; thence Westerly at right angles, 60 feet; thence Southerly parallel with said street, 10 feet; thence Westerly at right angles 30 feet; thence Southerly 24 feet to beginning. Being a part of the Northwest quarter of Section 20, Town 4 South, Range 14 West, according to the Government survey thereof. Parcel No. 80-43-040-319-00 Commonly referred to as 121 S. Phelps Street, Decatur, Michigan. The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with with MCl 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, the Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. DATED: May 2, 2024 C. Nicolas Curcio Curcio Law Firm PLC Attorney for Mortgagee 16905 Birchview Drive Nunica, MI 49448 (616) 430-2201
(05-09)(05-30)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in VAN BUREN County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on June 6, 2024.
The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE INFORMATION: Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Kimberly Ann McLaughlin and William Ray McLaughlin, wife and husband, whose address is 39413 6th Avenue, Bloomingdale, Michigan 49026, as original Mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., acting solely as a nominee for Amerifirst Financial Corporation , being a mortgage dated November 4, 2021, and recorded on November 8, 2021 in Liber 1728 Page 752, Van Buren County Records, State of Michigan and then assigned to Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, as assignee as documented by an assignment dated January 22, 2024 and recorded on January 26, 2024 in Liber 1761 Page 344, Van Buren County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-SIX THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED EIGHTY-SIX AND 12/100 DOLLARS ($176,586.12).
Said premises are situated in the Township of Bloomingdale, County of Van Buren, State of Michigan, and are described as: The West 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of section 10, Town 1 South, range 14 West, according to the government survey thereof. Less and except: Commencing at the center of section 10, Town 1 South, range 14 West; thence North 88° 58'23" West on the East and West 1/4 line, 657.16 feet to the place of beginning of this description; thence South 00° 34'47" West, on the East line of the West 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4, 1319.54 feet to the South line of the North 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4; thence North 88° 58'21" West on same, 657.43 feet to the West line of the West 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4; thence North 00° 35'30" East on same, 720.42 feet; thence South 88° 58'23" East, parallel with the East and West 1/4 line, 357.16 feet; thence North 00° 35'30" East, parallel with the West line of the West 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4, 599.11 feet to the East and West 1/4 line; thence South 88° 58'23" East on same, 300.00 feet to the place of beginning. Street Address: 39413 6th Avenue, Bloomingdale, Michigan 49026
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA § 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCLA § 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CONCLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOSING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE. Dated: May 9, 2024 For more information, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing: Kenneth J. Johnson, Johnson, Blumberg, & Associates, LLC, 5955 West Main Street, Suite 509, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. Telephone: (312) 541-9710. File No.: MI 24 5732
(05-09)(05-30)

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 p.m., on June 13, 2024.
The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. The Mortgage in default and being foreclosed is described as: Mortgage made by Lucinda Nower, a married woman, as mortgagor, to Nevada Funding LLC, a Nevada limited liability company as mortgagee ("Lender"), dated as of November 4, 2021 and recorded November 29, 2021 in Liber 1729, Page 743, Van Buren County Records, Michigan (the "Mortgage"). The amount due on the Mortgage as of the date of this Notice is $74,883.83. This amount does not reflect the total amount due on the Mortgage for any prepayment obligation due, and some or all of the amounts paid by Lender to collect the debt or to protect its rights under the Mortgage or otherwise due under the Mortgage, and may not reflect all credits attributable to the loan secured by the Mortgage. The Mortgage contains a power of sale and no suit or proceeding at law or in equity has been instituted to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage, or any part of the Mortgage. The public auction described above may be adjourned to a later date; and the specific location within the place of holding of the circuit court where the public auction is held may be designated by the sheriff or deputy sheriff conducting the sale. Lender will apply the sale proceeds to the amount due on the Mortgage as stated above, plus any amount subsequently paid by Lender to protect its interest in the property and interest on the amount due at the rate of 20.99 percent per annum. The mortgaged premises (collectively, the "Mortgaged Property") to be sold at foreclosure sale is located in the Village of Lawrence, County of Van Buren, State of Michigan, and is described more particularly as: THE SOUTH 42 FEET OF THE EAST 1/2 OF LOT 3, BLOCK 4, PHELP'S ADDITION TO THE VILLAGE OF LAWRENCE, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN VAN BUREN COUNTY RECORDS. ALSO, THE NORTH 33 FEET OF THE EAST 1/2 OF LOT 2, BLOCK 4, OF SAID ADDITION. Commonly known as: 109 North 2nd Street, Lawrence, MI 49064 Tax Parcel No.: 80-44-204-003-00 Together with all tangible personal property and fixtures described in the Mortgage, including, but not limited to, the following: (a) Improvements. Any and all buildings, structures, improvements, fixtures, and appurtenances now and later placed on the Mortgaged Property, including, without limitation, all apparatus and equipment, whether or not physically affixed to the land or any building, which is used to provide or supply air cooling, air conditioning, heat, gas, water, light, power, refrigeration, ventilation, laundry, drying, dish washing, garbage disposal, or other services; and all elevators (if any), escalators (if any), and related machinery and equipment, fire prevention and extinguishing apparatus, security and access control apparatus, partitions, ducts, compressors, plumbing, ovens, refrigerators, dishwashers, disposals, washers, dryers, awnings, storm windows, storm doors, screens, blinds, shades, curtains, curtain rods, mirrors, cabinets, paneling, rugs, attached floor coverings, furniture, pictures, antennas, pools, spas, pool and spa operation and maintenance equipment and apparatus, and trees and plants located on the Mortgaged Property; (b) Fixtures. All right, title, and interest of Borrower in and to all materials, supplies, equipment, apparatus, and other items now or later attached to, installed on or in the Land or the Improvements; (c) Personalty. All of the right, title, and interest of Borrower in and to all tangible personal property, whether now owned or later acquired by Borrower, including, but not limited to, water rights (to the extent they may constitute personal property), all equipment, inventory, goods, consumer goods, accounts, chattel paper, instruments, money, deposit accounts, investment property, documents, minerals, crops, and timber (as those terms are defined in the Michigan Uniform Commercial Code) and that are now or at any later time located on, attached to, installed, placed, used on, in connection with, or are required for such attachment, installation, placement, or use on the Land, the Improvements, Fixtures, or on other goods located on the Land or Improvements, together with all additions, accessions, accessories, amendments, modifications to the Land or Improvements, extensions, renewals, and enlargements and proceeds of the Land or Improvements, substitutions for, and income and profits from, the Land or Improvements.
All goods, machinery, tools, equipment (including fire sprinklers and alarm systems); building materials, air conditioning, heating, refrigerating, electronic monitoring, entertainment, recreational, maintenance, extermination of vermin or insects, dust removal, refuse and garbage equipment; vehicle maintenance and repair equipment; office furniture (including tables, chairs, planters, desks, sofas, shelves, lockers, and cabinets); safes, furnishings, appliances (including ice-making machines, refrigerators, fans, water heaters, and incinerators); rugs, carpets, other floor coverings, draperies, drapery rods and brackets, awnings, window shades, venetian blinds, curtains, other window coverings; lamps, chandeliers, other lighting fixtures; office maintenance and other supplies; The tangible personal property and fixtures constituting a part of the Mortgaged Property shall be sold together with the real estate in one foreclosure sale, in accordance with MCL 440.9604(1)(b) and MCL 440.9604(2)(b), respectively. There is no warranty in disposition relating to title, possession, quiet enjoyment, or any other matter as to any or all of the personal property and fixtures described above. The redemption period shall be six months from the date of sale pursuant to MCL 600.3240(8). Pursuant to MCL 600.3212(g), take notice that the mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the Mortgaged Property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the Mortgaged Property during the redemption period, as further provided in MCL 600.3278. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Dated: May 6, 2024 Nevada Funding LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, Lender Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, P.L.C. By: Michael E. Moore Attorneys for Lender 99 Monroe Avenue NW, Suite 1200 Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503 (616) 776-6323 158311-00009 (05-09)(06-06)
(05-09)(06-06)

ATTENTION HOMEOWNER:
If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM on JUNE 13, 2024.
The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. The Mortgage in default and being foreclosed is described as: Mortgage made by Sawyer Stephan Brown, an unmarried man, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for VanDyk Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns, Mortgagee, dated October 8, 2021 and recorded October 21, 2021 in Liber 1727, Page 827 Van Buren County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Twenty-Seven Thousand Two Hundred Twenty-Six and 51/100 Dollars ($127,226.51).
Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue at the place of holding the circuit court within Van Buren County, Michigan at 1:00 PM on JUNE 13, 2024.
Said premises are located in the Village of Bloomingdale, Van Buren County Michigan, and are described as:
Commencing at the Northeast corner of Lot(s) 102 of MAP OF THE VILLAGE OF BLOOMINGDALE according to the plat thereof recorded in Liber 25 of Deeds, Page 10 of Van Buren County Records; thence South 53 feet; thence West 66 feet; thence North 53 feet; thence East 66 feet to the place of beginning.
210 N Van Buren Street, Bloomingdale, Michigan 49026
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.
Dated: May 16, 2024
File No. 24-004443
Firm Name: Orlans PC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400
(05-16)(06-06)

ATTENTION HOMEOWNER:
If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM on JUNE 27, 2024.
The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.
Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Collin Kliphuis, unmarried man, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Van Dyk Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns, Mortgagee, dated May 3, 2022 and recorded May 12, 2022 in Liber 1737, Page 974 and Affidavit Affecting Realty recorded on May 2, 2024, in Liber 1765, Page 487, and Affidavit Affecting Realty recorded on May 2, 2024, in Liber 1765, Page 488, Van Buren County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Twenty-Six Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy-Five and 22/100 Dollars ($126,775.22).
Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue at the place of holding the circuit court within Van Buren County, Michigan at 1:00 PM on JUNE 27, 2024.
Said premises are located in the Village of Bloomingdale, Van Buren County Michigan, and are described as:
Commencing at the Northeast corner of Lot 72 of the Village of Bloomingdale, in the Village of Bloomingdale, Van Buren County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof; thence East 48 feet; thence South 7 rods; thence West 48 feet; thence North 7 rods to Beginning.
304 E Spring Street, Bloomingdale, Michigan 49026
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.
Dated: May 30, 2024
File No. 24-003704
Firm Name: Orlans PC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400
(05-30)(06-20)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
VAN BUREN INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPOSED 2024-2025 BUDGET

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on **June 5, 2024, at 3:30 p.m.,** at the Van Buren Conference Center, 490 South Paw Paw Street, Lawrence, Michigan, the Board of Education of Van Buren Intermediate School District will hold a public hearing to consider the District's proposed 2024-2025 budget. The Board may not adopt its proposed 2024-2025 budget until after the public hearing. A copy of the proposed 2024-2025 budget, including the proposed property tax millage rate, is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Superintendent's Office, Van Buren Conference Center, 490 South Paw Paw Street, Lawrence, Michigan.
The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.
This notice is given by order of the Board of Education.

John Faul, Board Secretary
Van Buren Intermediate School District

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PORTER TOWNSHIP, VAN BUREN COUNTY

NOTICE OF HEARING TO REAFFIRM THE TOWNSHIP-WIDE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

FOR THE COST OF CONSTRUCTION, IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC ROADS LOCATED IN THE TOWNSHIP

The Porter Township Board, having previously established a township-wide Special Assessment District for the cost of construction, improvement, and maintenance of public roads located in the township, **HEREBY sets a public hearing for Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 6:45 p.m. at the Porter Township Hall, 88040 M-40 Highway, Lawton, Michigan.**

The Porter Township Board will be in session to discuss and hear comments which may be offered regarding the re-affirmation of the township-wide special assessment in the amount of 1.0 mil (one mil), for the construction, improvement and maintenance of public roads located in the township. The nature of the improvement to be made is such that a periodic redetermination of cost and renewal of the levy shall be made on an annual basis.

The Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services to those withdisabilities planning to attend upon adequate notice to Heather Smith, Porter Township Clerk, in writing, or by calling the Township at (269) 624-4022.

Dated: May 10, 2024
Heather Smith, Clerk, Porter Township

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON INCREASING PROPERTY TAXES

The Village Council of the Village of Lawton will hold a Public Hearing and subsequently decide on a proposed increase of .8207 mills in the operating tax millage rate to be levied on property in 2024. The hearing will be held at the Village Council Meeting on Tuesday, June 11, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

If adopted, the proposed additional millage will increase operating revenues from ad valorem property taxes 5.09% over such revenues generated by levies permitted without holding a hearing. If the proposed additional millage rate is not approved, the operating revenue will increase by 0.82% over the preceding year's operating revenue. The taxing unit publishing this notice, and identified below, has complete authority to establish the number of mills to be levied from withing its authorized millage rate.

The taxing unit publishing this notice, and identified below, has complete authority to establish the number of mills to be levied from within its authorized millage rate.

This notice is published by:
Village of Lawton
125 S Main Street
Lawton, MI 49065
269.624.6407

Notice of Public Hearing on Increasing Property Taxes

The VILLAGE COUNCIL of the VILLAGE OF DECATUR will hold a public hearing on a proposed increase of **0.5092** mills in the operating tax, a proposed increase of **0.2037** mills in the street tax, **0.0814** mills in the downtown development authority tax millage rate to be levied on property in 2024.

The hearing will be held on Monday, June 3, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. at VILLAGE HALL,114/116 N. Phelps Street, DECATUR, MI 49045

The date and location of the meeting to take action on the proposed additional millage will be announced at this public meeting. If adopted, the proposed additional millage will increase operating revenues from ad valorem property taxes **4.67%** over such revenues generated by levies permitted.

without holding a hearing. If the proposed additional millage rate is not approved, the operating revenue will decrease by **1.00%** over the preceding year's operating revenue.

The taxing unit publishing this notice, and identified below, has complete authority to establish the number of mills to be levied from within its authorized millage rate.

This notice is published by:
VILLAGE OF DECATUR
114 N. Phelps Street
Decatur, MI 49045

MCL, Section 211.24e requires that notice of a public hearing be published by a local taxing unit which proposes to increase operating tax levies over the maximum amount allowed to be levied without a hearing. Notice may be published alone or included with the notice of public hearing on a unit's budget held pursuant to MCL, Section 141. 412.The preceding model notice fulfills the requirements under MCL, Section 211.24e. It can be completed with all the information provided and forwarded to the appropriate newspaper for publication.

PORTER TOWNSHIP, VAN BUREN COUNTY

NOTICE OF HEARING TO RENEW TOWNSHIP-WIDE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

FOR FIRE PROTECTION

The Porter Township Board, having previously established a township-wide Special Assessment District for the cost of fire motor vehicles, apparatus, equipment, housing and fire protection, **HEREBY sets a public hearing for Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. at the Porter Township Hall, 88040 M-40 Highway, Lawton, Michigan.**

The Porter Township Board will be in session to discuss and hear comments which may be offered regarding the re-affirmation of the township-wide special assessment in the amount of 1.0 mil (one mil), for the cost and expenses of the fire motor vehicles, apparatus, equipment, housing and fire protection. The nature of the improvement to be made is such that a periodic redetermination of cost and renewal of the levy shall be made on an annual basis.

The Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services to those with disabilities planning to attend upon adequate notice to Heather Smith, Porter Township Clerk, in writing, or by calling the Township at (269) 624-4022.

Dated: May 10, 2024
Heather Smith, Clerk, Porter Township

ARLINGTON TOWNSHIP VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

The Arlington Township Planning Commission shall conduct a meeting that will be held on June 18th, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Arlington Township Hall, 52022 34th Ave, Bangor MI 49013, where the Planning Commission shall go over a sketch plan for an expansion to the outdoor serving area consisting of 4 picnic tables for parcel number 80-03-200-008-01 located at 53838 M-43 HWY, Bangor MI, 49013, owned by (Frida's Cantina) Jeff Wescott, 53838 M-43 HWY Bangor MI 49013

The public is invited to attend the meeting and comment on the request. Comments may also be provided to the Planning Commission by mail to 52022 34th Ave Bangor, MI 49013 or by e-mail to PCMember1@ArlingtonTownship.com and Clerk@ArlingtonTownship.com

Persons in need of special accommodations to attend the meeting should contact the Township by 1:00pm on June 16th by calling 269-427-7300. Please leave a message.

Georgette Peterson
Arlington Township Clerk

ARLINGTON TOWNSHIP VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

The Arlington Township Planning Commission shall conduct a public hearing at their quarterly meeting that will be held on June 18th, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Arlington Township Hall, 52022 34th Ave., Bangor MI 49013, where the Planning Commission will consider a Special Use Renewal request and Site Plan Review in relation to an existing wedding venue for parcel numbers 80-03- 022-012-10 and 80-03-022-012-15 located at 39940 C.R. 673, owned by Old Grove Barn, 45143 28th Ave, Bangor, MI 49013.

The public is invited to attend the meeting and comment on the request. Comments may also be provided to the Planning Commission by mail to 52022 34th Ave Bangor, MI 49013 or by e-mail to PCmember1@ArlingtonTownship.com and Clerk@ArlingtonTownship.com

Persons in need of special accommodations to attend the meeting should contact the Township Hall by 1:00pm on June 16th by calling 269-427-7300, please leave a message.

Georgette Peterson
Arlington Township Clerk

ARLINGTON TOWNSHIP VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

The Arlington Township Planning Commission shall conduct a meeting that will be held on June 18th, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Arlington Township Hall, 52022 34th Ave, Bangor MI 49013, where the Planning Commission shall consider a request for a Special Use Permit for parcel number 80-03-031-015-00 for the purpose of constructing a Pole Building to use to repair tarps and boat covers located at 57374 48th Ave, Bangor MI, 49013, owned by Rudy & Clara Miller, 57374 48th Ave Lawrence MI 49064

The public is invited to attend the meeting and comment on the request. Comments may also be provided to the Planning Commission by mail to 52022 34th Ave Bangor, MI 49013 or by e-mail to PCMember1@ArlingtonTownship.com and Clerk@ArlingtonTownship.com

Persons in need of special accommodations to attend the meeting should contact the Township by 1:00pm on June 16th by calling 269-427-7300. Please leave a message.

Georgette Peterson,
Arlington Township Clerk

CLASSIFIEDS

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• SALES •

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22314 Banker, Centreville
Phone 269-257-1309

GARAGE SALE
June 6,7, 9 to 2, June 8, 9 to 12, 22118 Woodhendge Dr., Mattawan. Something for everyone.

GARAGE SALE
Sat June 8th, 9am-4pm
52960 W CR365
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Mattawan Mechanical Services Receives "Dealer of the Year"

Tom Vaughn and his wife Elizabeth recently participated in the Munch Supply 2024 Michigan Stand Out Dealer Convention, held at the MGM Grand Hotel in Detroit. Mattawan Mechanical Services proudly received four Trane Dealer Awards for 2023 during the event.

The company was honored to receive the following prestigious Trane Dealer Awards:

- Green Champion Award
- Top Trane Sales Award
- Distinguished Dealer Award
- Dealer Of The Year Award

Awarded to only one of the 156 TRANE Dealers in the State of Michigan.

"We deeply value our staff and their unwavering dedication to our customers, ensuring excellence throughout the installation and service process," said Tom Vaughn, owner of Mattawan Mechanical Services. "These awards are a testament to our team's collective effort, and we extend our sincere gratitude to each of them."

Mattawan Mechanical Services is a leading HVAC company serving Southwest Michigan for over 32 years. Specializing in Trane products, the company provides installation, repair, and maintenance services for residential and commercial customers.

PRAIRIE VIEW STORAGE

STORAGE AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION on 6/08/2024 at 9:00 am **PRAIRIE VIEW STORAGE** located at 51350 CR 652, Mattawan, MI 49017, pursuant to 570.521-570.527, will hold a public sale of personal property belonging to the following tenants to the highest bidder.

Contents include household goods, tools, and misc.

1. Aaron Curtis
2. Meghan Overacker
3. Meghan Overacker
4. Robert Klein
5. Kyle Pierce

Cash payment due at sale. All sales subject to prior cancellation. Rules and regulations available at sale.

American Legion commander guest at Capitol

Senate Republican Leader Aric Nesbitt, R-Porter Township, on Thursday welcomed retired U.S. Navy Lt. John Barkley, commander of the Edward W. Thompson American Legion Post 49 in South Haven, to the state Capitol as his special guest for the Senate's 29th Annual Memorial Day Service to honor Michigan's fallen service members.

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